

March 18, 1980

LB 486

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the adoption of the Murphy amendment to the Koch amendment. Okay, all those in favor of the Murphy amendment vote aye, opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Yes. Senator Murphy.

SENATOR MURPHY: Mr. Speaker, you have been here longer than I have. Do you think I should ask for a Call of the House?

SPEAKER MARVEL: No.

SENATOR MURPHY: Then I won't.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, record the vote.

CLERK: 8 ayes, 28 nays on the motion to adopt, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion lost. Any other amendments?

CLERK: No, sir, just the pending Koch amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay. Senator Cope, your light is still on. Do you wish to speak? We are taking up the Koch amendment.

SENATOR COPE: Mr. President, members, there has been considerable discussion on this bill with the amendments. One part that I like particularly, it doesn't mean that many dollars but is something that I think has been overlooked for a long while and that is the fact that there is going to be more foundation dollars in this bill. Now we have on the statutes now the funds for the gifted but they are not too plentiful. With this bill, if it is passed, foundation funds will be increased. There will be more money for gifted students. Why am I so interested in this? I will tell you very quickly. Being on the Appropriations Committee, I see the, not millions, but hundreds of millions of dollars that are appropriated each year, mentally retarded, handicapped, special ed, impoverished and I have no fault with this. This is something that we do. We really have no choice but what I am worried about are the above average students, the gifted students, that group because those are the students and not too many years from now are going to be the people that are paying the taxes so that we can continue these programs that I just mentioned and I think these students have been getting the short end of the stick, because the money goes to special ed, mentally retarded, handicapped, the various other groups. Now, if we put more money it is an investment. Let's forget the cultural part